

The Parish of St. Agatha

Milton ~ Quincy, MA

February 24-25, 2018

StAgathaParish.org

ST. AGATHA RECTORY

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am-4pm

432 Adams Street
Milton, MA 02186

ST. AGATHA SCHOOL

440 Adams Street
Milton, MA 02186

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Daily Masses:

Monday-Friday:

7:00am & 9:00am

Saturday & Holidays: 8:00am

Reconciliation: 3:45-4:15pm

on Saturdays. Any other time
by appointment

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 4:30 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am

9:00 am

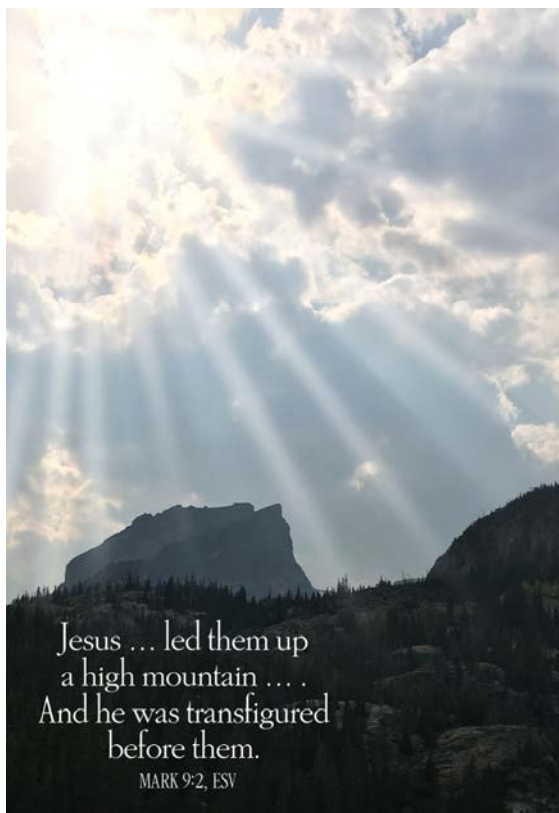
10:30 am

12:00 noon

5:00 pm

Holy Days: As Announced

- There are assistive devices for the hearing impaired available in the Sacristy before all Masses.
- Low gluten hosts are available. Please see priest before Mass if needed.



NEED HELP? The "Caring Circle" dares to care... Call 617-337-3225 for short-term non-financial help or visit www.mcccaringcircle.org

CORI forms will be available to fill out after the masses this weekend.
For more info, see details inside.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Agatha Parish is a Christian Community of Catholics from Milton, Quincy and beyond, whose Mission is to demonstrate Love by:

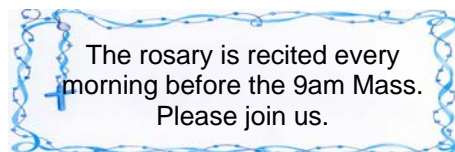
- proclaiming and celebrating God's Presence on earth;
- being open and welcoming to all;
- reaching out to our sisters and brothers near and far; providing opportunities for prayer, service, education and recreation.
- In living this Mission, we accept our responsibility for giving witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Friday after the 9am Mass in the Chapel until reposition at 1pm.

Legion of Mary

meets every Wednesday after the 9am Mass.



Please call 617-698-2439 and we will arrange for a minister of communion to bring Eucharist to you.

St. Agatha Parish

Rectory@StAgathaParish.org

Parish Website: www.stagathaparish.org

Clergy

Rev. William B. Palardy, Pastor

Rev. Jason M. Makos, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Daniel F. Sullivan

Rev. Patrick McLaughlin, Senior Priest in Residence

Rev. Thomas Powers, Senior Priest in Residence

Deacon Baldemar Garza, Seminarian Intern

Parish Administration

Mr. Jack Riley, Finance and Operations Manager

Ms. Kathy Monahan, Administrative Assistant and Bulletin Editor

Music Ministry

MusicDirector@StAgathaParish.org

Ms. Agata Orzechowska, Director of Music

Phone: 617-698-2439

Fax: 617-698-1517

St. Agatha School

School@StAgathaParish.org

School Website: www.stagathaparish.org/school

Mr. David Marion, Principal

Mrs. Michelle Tierney, Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Joan Brown, Tuition Coordinator

ST AGATHA FAITH FORMATION 617-696-1388

Grades 1-8 FaithFormation@StAgathaparish.org

Mrs. Ellen Cronin, Director

Mrs. Jenn Caputo, Administrative Assistant

Grade 9-11 & Young Church Ministry 617-696-8978

YoungChurchMinistry@StAgathaParish.org

Mr. Brian T. Pellicano



A Note from Our Pastor,

I hope that Lent is off to a good start for all of us. It is great to see an uptick in the number of parishioners at our daily Masses. Might I suggest two practices that all of us could attempt which will bring honor to the Lord, enhance our parish's worship experience during weekend Masses, and bring untold joy to your pastor and the other priests serving here? These two practices will not entail excessive self-denial or spending many extra hours in prayer, and if you embrace these practices during Lent, they can become second-nature once Easter comes and you can continue them long into the future. So what are the 2 practices I am suggesting? First, that you and your loved ones make a concerted effort to arrive at Mass on time and remain until Mass is over. You could even arrive at Mass a few minutes beforehand and prayerfully prepare yourself to meet the Lord when He comes to speak to your heart in the Scripture readings and join Himself to you in the Holy Eucharist. Now, I know that there are occasions when emergencies come up, situations beyond your control which compel you to arrive late or to leave early. And if you are trying to get young children ready, there may well be delays beyond your control. I understand that this can happen on occasion, but more often, I think, folks can fall into the habit of arriving late and/or leaving early. Now, when something is important to us, don't we try to arrive in plenty of time before the event begins, and don't we stay until that important event ends? Well, we are asked to give one hour or so a week to the Lord, in thanksgiving for all the blessings that the Lord showers upon us. And the Lord in turn shares His Word and His very Self, Body and Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. I hope we remind ourselves that, ultimately, there is nothing more valuable than what the Lord gives us at every Mass.

My second suggestion is that you try to be actively engaged at Mass. Many of you do so already, especially in the spoken responses to the acclamations at Mass. However, although we have a fine variety of beautiful music at our weekend Masses, I can't help but notice that it seems that very few people are actually joining in the hymns and the sung responses. I find it depressing when I am coming down the aisle at the beginning of Mass and returning at the end of Mass, and the only voice I can hear singing is my own. Why does this depress me? Because I have a terrible singing voice! Most of you have much better singing voices than do I, so please use them and drown out the likes of me! And for those of you who, like me, think that God didn't give you a good singing voice, well, as I recently heard another priest put it, "Give your voice back to the Lord!" So, please do take these two suggestions to heart this Lent. In my humble opinion, if you make efforts in these areas, God will be glorified and our worship of God as a vibrant community of faith will be mightily enhanced. And for many of us, giving this our Lenten determination will be easier than whatever delights we might be "giving up" for Lent, and, in the end, will be a far better gift to the Lord and to this parish, our community of faith.

Last Sunday, if you were at the 10:30 Mass you witnessed our catechumens and candidates take part in the Rite of Election as they enter their final weeks of preparation to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist at our Easter Vigil. We'll see them again as a group at the 10:30 Masses next Sunday and the following two, as they celebrate what are called the Scrutinies. But after our ceremony here last Sunday, Nicole, Carmen, and Elizabeth traveled with their sponsors, other loved ones, Deacon Dan Sullivan, and yours truly to Immaculate Conception Church in Malden. There they joined fellow catechumens and candidates throughout the Archdiocese of Boston and were officially proclaimed by Cardinal Seán to be the "Elect", namely, those approved to join the Catholic Church at Easter. Please pray for them and for all who will enter the Church this Easter, and may our example, yours and mine, be such as to draw them closer to Christ and inspire them to become active disciples of the Lord in whatever parishes they join this Easter.

Have a blessed week!

Fr. Palardy



From left:
Carmen Esquivel,
Elizabeth Plageman
and Nicole Taveras
after the Rite of
Election last Sunday.

Lenten Activities

"The Light is on for You" On Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8pm, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated in every church in the Archdiocese of Boston. This sacrament of the Lord's healing and peace will be celebrated in the Chapel located in our lower church. Come and experience the Lord's love!

Stations of the Cross will be held on Fridays during Lent in the lower chapel at 3pm (new time).

Presentations will be held on Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm in the Gathering Space on aspects of the spirituality of the early Church. This week, Fr. Makos will be presenting "St. Maximus the Confessor, a Champion of Prayer and Unity."

Vespers will be held on Sunday evenings at 7pm starting on February 25th.



As required by the Archdiocese of Boston, any person 18 years of age or older who volunteers in any capacity that puts them in any possible contact with children or the elderly, needs to be CORI checked on an annual basis. **CORI forms are available to fill out again after the Masses.**

FEATURED WEEKLY READING

Read Reflect Respond

THEME: Seeing Jesus

As you hear this familiar story today, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What image from Mark’s Gospel lingers in your memory?

Gospel: Mark 9: 2-10

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.

Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified.

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

Pastoral Planning

February 25 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

The readings this week deserve to be read, and reread and pondered. “God put Abraham to the test.” Those sound like scary words. Think about it: God put (insert YOUR name) to the test. What might that test look like in your life? How are you tested? How do you respond to difficult situations God asks you to face? In our Gospel, we hear God speak “This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him.” As you begin this second week of Lent, listen attentively to what Jesus is speaking to you, asking of you? How will you respond? Remember God’s promise!

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

One of the most important ministries we have in the parish is St. Agatha School. The school, which first opened in 1941, provides an excellent education for our young people in a supportive, safe and strongly Catholic environment. Each year we graduate 8th Graders who have received a high quality education as evidenced by the fact that our students are accepted at the finest high schools in the area. At the other end of the age spectrum, the school has an excellent pre-school program which serves little ones who are 3 and 4 years old. My granddaughter even learned a little Spanish when she was in this program! Please take a moment to look at the insert in this weekend’s Bulletin as we begin the process of registration of new students and re-registration of existing students. It highlights just some of the features of our fine school, and as parishioners we should all take pride in this gem. If you are interested in finding out more about the school and perhaps taking a tour, or if you know a friend or family member who might be interested in the school for their child(ren) please call or have them call the school at 617-696-3548.

In last week’s Operations Note there was a reference to a major organ repair that we need to undertake. After the 4:30 Mass a parishioner good naturedly said “The organ actually sounds good to me!” So I asked Agata Orzechowska, our Music Director and Organist. She not only explained but demonstrated what the problems are and the limitation they place on her ability to play certain music. For instance there are 36 stops that she has to use which create combinations of sounds when she is playing. However, half of them are inoperable, probably due to dust that has accumulated inside the pipes over the 33 years since they were installed. There are also some problems with pedals that do not function properly. Agata is usually able to use her musical skill to find ways to circumvent the problems so to untrained ears (like mine!) the organ seems to be fine. But the fact of the matter is that this is very fine instrument which is currently performing far below its capacity. We also have to realistically accept that at some point additional problems will emerge and the situation will then become an emergency rather than something we can do in an orderly, pre-planned way. If you have a particular interest in this area, or simply have a questions, Agata would be happy to speak with you.

Last weekend in addition to the Weekly Offertory below which was somewhat low because of the snow, \$2,871 was also contributed on Ash Wednesday. Thank you for your generosity.

Jack Riley



Weekly Offertory Report

Weekly Budget	Feb. 17-18 In-Pew Collection	Electronic Collection	Feb. 17-18 Total Offertory	Weekly Difference	Total Difference YTD
\$13,235	\$8,234	\$2,695	\$10,929	-\$2,306	-\$34,217



2018 Gala Fundraiser

March 1, 2018 — Granite Links Golf Club
6 pm Cocktails/7:30 pm Dinner and Program

Presenting Sponsor: the Flatley Foundation
Matching all funds raised for the event

Sponsored in part by:
The Saint Agatha Parish Global Outreach Ministry

Honorary Chairs — Beth Anne and Hugh Cole,
St Agatha Parishioners

KEYNOTE SPEAKER — Dr. Minaud Dacius,
the Haiti Program Director for Vitamin Angels, an
SRHF institutional partner.

Special Guest Speaker -- Dr. Jean Kenes Eloy,
SRHF Medical Director

Master of Ceremonies – Eileen Curran,
local TV veteran and Saint Agatha parishioner, will be
the MC for the evening.

Tickets are \$150 and are available by sending a check to SRHF, 372 Granite Ave., Suite 1, Milton, MA 02186 or go to www.saintrock.org to pay online. Sponsorship opportunities available.

Please join us to support the ongoing work of the Saint Rock Haiti Foundation. For more information, please contact **Mary McLaughlin** at marymclaughlin.srhf@gmail.com or 617-794-9644.

St. Agatha Parish is looking for Altar Servers *Would you like to help the priest during Mass?*

Altar servers carry the cross, lead the procession, hold the book, prepare the altar and present the bread, water and wine to the priest during Mass. If you would like to become an altar server you must be currently in Grade 4 or above. **You must also attend BOTH training days during one of the time slots provided.**

Wednesday, March 7

@ 2:35–3:35pm or 3:45–4:45pm

and

Thursday, March 8

@ 2:35–3:35pm or 3:45–4:45pm



The best way to register for the training is to go the Parish home page www.StAgathaParish.org and click on the link to register for the training.



Thank you for all of your generous donations to the annual Respect Life Baby Shower. As always, your gifts are greatly appreciated.



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

You're invited to an early celebration of St. Patrick's Day!



Thursday Evening, March 8, 2018, 6pm

at Miramar Retreat Center
121 Parks Street, Duxbury, MA
Tel: (781) 585-2460

or visit: www.miramarretreat.org

Includes hors d'oeuvres and beverages followed by traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner.

Wonderful Irish music and song by Sean McLaughlin.

\$45 per person. Reservations are limited.

Visa and Master Card are accepted.

Call Miramar Retreat Center for tickets
and more info at (781) 585-2460, ext. 312

Get your tickets early, invite your friends and enjoy!

Cead Mile Failte, a hundred thousand welcomes, while helping to support the work of Miramar Retreat Center!



For Grieving Parents...

Whose children of any age have died, no matter how long ago

Brown Bag Lunch Retreats
St. Anthony Shrine, 100 Arch
Street, Downtown Crossing, Boston

MARY KNOWS... Wed. 3/7, 12:15-1:15pm

Using "visio divina," focus on images of Mary in art to reflect on how she surely understands our pain.

Is she taking care of our children? How can she become our best friend?

THEY ARE ALIVE! Thurs. 3/22, 12:15-1:15pm

Hear Emily Ketring, author of *An Angel of the Beatitudes: Finding Faith after the Loss of a Child*, reflect on how to connect with our deceased children and use them to help us draw closer to God.

ONE-DAY RETREAT Sat. 3/10, 9:30am-7:00pm

Give yourself the gift of getting away to focus on where God is in your life after the death of your child.

Bring a lunch; we provide beverages

To register, see www.emfgp.org or call 617-542-8057

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES

Faith Formation sessions resume this week.

The First Communion Retreats are on March 10 and March 24 in the lower church Gathering Space. Doors open at 10am.



The RSVP for the First Communion Retreat is now overdue. If we do not receive a RSVP form, there will be no materials for your child to participate (including Communion banner materials). It is our expectation that every First Communicant will attend with an adult for a fun, interactive morning of preparation for their big day.

Our Faith Formation children are responding with their usual enthusiastic generosity to our three almsgiving options for this Lent: Rice Bowls, to benefit Catholic Relief Services; toiletries for donation to Southampton Street Shelter; and Easter Basket trinkets (not food) for distribution by the Quincy Interfaith Social Service Agency. Thank you to them and their generous parents.

Another option for the children’s Lenten almsgiving is the Southampton Street Shelter for the homeless which was opened in 2015 after the bridge to the shelters on Long Island was deemed unsafe. It provides services to men and young adults in the city of Boston.

CONFIRMATION & YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY

FOLLOW THE YOUTH GROUP ON
 @ *staggieslifeteen* or *St. Agatha’s youth group* **YouTube channel at StaggiesLT**



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP:

Youth Group MOUNTAIN SNOW TUBING – TODAY Feb. 25–FREE For Teens That Come!

We’re tubing at Nashoba Valley Ski Area in Westford on Sunday, Feb. 25th – **meet at St. Agatha’s parking lot at 11:30AM.** We will be traveling by cars and tubing for 2 hours! **Will arrive back around 4pm** at the church.

We’re looking for a new Youth Group Adult Team Member:

Do you have a New Year’s resolution or inclination to increase your service to others? Do you want to help young people see the importance of the Catholic faith?

Currently looking for a male addition to our youth ministry team! **If you are reading this – I am calling you** to prayerfully consider joining us for the spring! After that period we can re-evaluate and see if you’d like to continue! (Preferably between ages 22 & 65)

LIFE TEEN MASS: TONIGHT – February 25th at 5pm
High School Worship Band:

If you are a teen interested in singing or playing with our group – contact Brian Pellicano at bpellicano@stagathaparish.org !

Currently looking for:
 A percussionist a pianist, a guitarist, and vocalists !!!

HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP – July 21st – 28th, 2018: More than half filled up – don’t wait!

Registration is now online for our high school mission trip to West Virginia! We have 30 high school spots and 15 adult chaperone spots on a first come, first serve basis. This is an incredible experience where we will work together to repair up to 7 homes for families of great need. The cost is \$350 per teen and just \$250 per adult chaperone. Every volunteer (teen and adult) will be responsible for helping to raise money for our trip. There are many costs that – excluding registration – add up to about \$14,000. Any **additional financial support from our parish-ioners is greatly appreciated.** Please note, once you submit a registration – **YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO GO.**

Don’t wait – the spots are filling fast! I look forward to making the trip with you!

MISSION TRIP ADULT LEADERS NEEDED

To all adults 21+ years of age. **I am counting on you – yes you – to consider volunteering** your time and efforts to be part of our adult leadership team for this year’s mission trip. It is truly an amazing experience. If you know of anyone who has gone on ASP, I encourage you to talk to them about their experience as a volunteer. Details again are listed in the previous paragraph, contact Brian for more details via bpellicano@stagathaparish.org or by phone at 617-696-8978. Thank you and God bless!

Confirmation Upcoming classes:

10th Grade Session 8 – Sunday, March 4 – 3:30-4:50pm in the Gathering Space

9th Grade Session 8 – Sunday, March 11 – 3:30-4:50pm in the Gathering Space

Note: Please keep your eye on email updates in early March as class status may change due to Brian’s child being born!

EDGE 8th Grade Upcoming sessions:

Session 11 – Thursday, March 1 – 6:30-8pm in the Gathering Space

This is only for 8th graders! **PARENTS OF 8th GRADERS WELCOME!** Let’s end it with a bang!

In the joy of Christ,

Brian Pellicano
 Youth Minister, Confirmation Coordinator

SAINT AGATHA SCHOOL



NIC+ZOE
giving in style

**JOIN US FOR AN EVENT TO
GIVE BACK TO ST. AGATHA SCHOOL**

RECEIVE **20% OFF** YOUR PURCHASE

10% OF YOUR PURCHASE
WILL BE DONATED TO ST. AGATHA SCHOOL

PLUS! Enjoy sips + light bites
while shopping our latest collection

THURSDAY, MARCH 1 • 5:00 PM-8:00 PM
DERBY STREET SHOPPES • 92 Derby Street, Hingham

SAVE THE DATE...

On Saturday, March 24th Saint Agatha School will be holding their **20th Annual Auction and Gala** at the Venezia Restaurant.

Please email sasauction2018@gmail.com if you would like to make a donation, become a sponsor, or purchase tickets.



CONGRATULATIONS!! The Saint Agatha School girls' basketball team will be heading to the South Shore Parochial School League playoffs. The girls will play St. Catherine School Norwood in the semi-finals on Saturday, February 24th at Bishop Feehan High School in Attleboro. Game time is at 4:30pm. Good luck, girls!



Saint Agatha School Milton ~ Quincy
Currently accepting applications
for the 2018-2019 academic year.

Pre-school ages 3 & 4 and Kindergarten – Gr 8

*For more information or to schedule a visit
please call 617 696-3548*

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 8:00am 4:30pm	February 24 Memorial 10th & 15th Anniversary	Frank Foley Mary Riordan & John Riordan
Sunday 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	February 25 Month's Mind For the Anniversary 12th Anniversary 1st Anniversary	James Haley Parishioners of St. Agatha Arthur & Gladys Nighan James Browne & the Browne & Gill Family William Herlihy
Monday 7:00am 9:00am	February 26 2nd Anniversary Anniversary	Edward J. Harrington Joseph & Margaret McLean
Tuesday 7:00am 9:00am	February 27 2nd Anniversary	Kevin Drake
Wednesday 7:00am 9:00am	February 28 Birth Memorial	John P. Foley
Thursday 7:00am 9:00am	March 1 Month's Mind	Festus Joyce
Friday 7:00am 9:00am	March 2 11th Anniversary School Mass	Joseph T. Sullivan
Saturday 8:00am 4:30pm	March 3 Memorial 48th Anniversary	Julia Killeen John Pascarella
Sunday 7:30am 9:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 5:00pm	March 4 1st Anniversary Memorial Memorial Memorial For the	Jeremiah Mulcahy Robert Blankenship Ann, Bill & Paul Curran Francis McDermott Parishioners of St. Agatha

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

Baptism: 2:00pm on the 2nd/4th Sundays of each month. Please call the Rectory to arrange/ask questions regarding other arrangements.

Reconciliation: 3:45-4:15pm on Saturdays Any other time by appointment

Marriage: Call one of the parish priests or deacon. Arrangements are ordinarily to be made at least 6 months before the proposed marriage.



Every Monday • Doors Open @ 4:30pm
BINGO begins at 6:40pm

Come and Play

School Parents, your help is needed. Thank You Volunteers!!!

